



30 DEC 1948

Mr. Henry E. Visetally, Editor
New International Year Book
Funk & Wagnalls Company
153 East 24th Street
New York 10, New York

My dear Mr. Visetally:

In response to your letter of 26 November 1948,
we are attaching herewith a brief report regarding the
Central Intelligence Agency during 1948.

We have outlined briefly the Agency's activities,
as you requested; but, for reasons of security, the find-
ings of the Agency cannot be included.

Sincerely yours,

signed

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
REAR ADMIRAL, USN
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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The National Security Act of 1947, (Public Law 253, 80th Congress, 1st session), became effective in September, 1947. Section 101 of this Act established the National Security Council, with the function of advising the President with respect to the integration of domestic, foreign and military policies relating to the national security.

The National Security Act provided further, (Section 102), for the establishment of the Central Intelligence Agency, under the direction of the National Security Council. The Agency recommends to the National Security Council various measures for the coordination of intelligence activities of the Government relating to the national security. This coordination is particularly important in determining primary fields of intelligence responsibility of the various Departments and agencies.

The Agency works to prevent overlapping functions in the collection and dissemination of intelligence; to eliminate duplicate roles and missions; and to eliminate duplicate services in carrying out these functions. It makes continual

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their requirements in foreign intelligence and to make certain that these requirements are fulfilled.

The Agency is charged by law with performing, for the benefit of Departmental intelligence agencies, additional functions of common concern which can be more efficiently performed centrally -- for example, the exploitation of foreign documents captured during World War II in all theaters. It translates and exploits current magazines and technical works, from all foreign sources. It monitors foreign radio broadcasts of news and propaganda and public statements of leading figures abroad.

One of the greatest contributions that the Central Intelligence Agency makes is in the preparation of national intelligence estimates which will not be slanted in the interest of any one Department. Rather, it seeks to present an overall picture -- a balanced national intelligence estimate, including all pertinent data. From this, the President and appropriate authorities can draw a well-rounded picture in formulating their policies.